

Wyandotte Building  
21 West Broad Street  
Columbus  
Franklin County  
Ohio

HABS No. 0-48

HABS  
OHIO  
25-COLB  
75

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction  
120 South Third Street  
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

WYANDOTTE BUILDING

Address: 21 West Broad Street, Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio.

Present Owner: State of Ohio, Department of Public Works, 705 Ohio Departments Bldg., Columbus 15, Ohio.

Brief Statement of Significance: This building, erected 1897-1898, was designed by Daniel Burnham and Company, and is the tallest in central Ohio, as well as being the first steel frame and tile arch constructed fireproof building in the area.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners: Built by Deshler National Bank & Associates, now the Huntington National Bank, to accommodate a Building and Loan Association. Sold in 1916 for \$225,000.00 to the State of Ohio for use as the State Office Building.
2. Date of erection: 1897-1898.
3. Architect: Daniel Burnham and Company, Chicago [Page 9, August 1956 issue, The Ohio Architect as reputed by the State Architects Office/.
4. Original plans, construction etc.: None known.
5. Notes on alterations and additions: Main floor Banking offices converted to State offices with removal of bank vault from basement area under sidewalk. Steam boiler removed from basement in 1949, and building heated by steam pipe from State Penitentiary. Circular brick stack removed to eighth floor level. Chief addition was window ventilators.
6. Important old views and references:  
Views: None known.  
References: Daniel Burnham Library, Chicago, Illinois.  
August 1956 issue, The Ohio Architect as reputed by the State Architect Office.

- B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure: First Chicago style skyscraper of steel skeleton construction and restrained design in Columbus, Ohio. (Article - The Ohio Architect, August 1956).

HABBS  
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First steel frame and tile arch constructed building. Also the highest--in central Ohio--according to Charles E. Gates, Building Manager.

It is the finest example of the early Chicago-style skyscraper in Ohio. It is eleven stories high with a final story for mechanical equipment.

Prepared by Perry E. Borchers  
June 1959

## PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

### A. General Statement

1. Architectural Character: This building is a fine example of Chicago skyscraper design of good proportions and restraint.
2. Condition of Fabric: Excellent.

### B. Technical Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: Twelve stories; 61' x 57' lot.
2. Foundations: Brick piers in basement. Type of footings unknown.
3. Wall construction: Steel frame with curtain wall. Lower two stories constitute a base; and the brown brick and terracotta walls are battered to just below third story height where bay windows project and are continued through nine stories.
4. Chimneys: Original circular brick stack cut down to 8th floor level in 1949 with removal of boiler in basement and connection to steam pipe from Ohio State Penitentiary.
5. Openings
  - a. Doorways and doors: New aluminum doors to central elevator and stair hall. Four pairs of bronze doors to old banking offices are permanently closed. Iron doors close driveway to interior service and delivery court and light shaft.
  - b. Windows and shutters: First two floors--plate glass casement windows. Third to eleventh floor--plate glass, double hung, bay windows.

6. Roof

- a. Shape, covering: Rectangular lines of the ground floor are re-established at the top of the building, where openings just below the roof provide light in the pipe and storage space. Sloped built-up roofing over concrete slab.
- b. Cornice, eaves: Restrained cornice of corbelled brick and terra cotta coping of parapet wall.
- c. Dormers: None. Elevator penthouse.

C. Technical Description of Interiors

1. Floor Plans: Central hallway with two elevators and with stairway adjoining light shaft. Offices, variously arranged with light partitions, occupy 23 feet of depth of the north and west facades.
2. Stairways: Iron, with iron railing and marble treads.
3. Flooring: In hallways--marble. In offices--wood over concrete.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: In lobby--marble, extending two stories in height at entrance. In hallways--marble to half height, plaster above. In offices--plaster walls and ceilings.
5. Doorways and doors: Wood.
6. Trim: Wood.
7. Hardware: Iron.
8. Lighting: Electricity.
9. Heating: Central boiler for steam heating originally in basement.

D. Site

1. General setting and orientation: Structure abuts sidewalks and adjoining buildings. It fronts north for 57 feet on Broad Street, 61 feet west on minor street, with light shaft for 33 feet to the south and 16 feet to the east on interior (southeast) corner.
2. Enclosures: Service court and light shaft, 33' x 16'.

3. Outbuildings: None.
4. Walks, driveways, etc.: City sidewalks.
5. Landscaping, gardens etc.: None.

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Addendum to:  
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**PHOTOGRAPHS**

**WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA**

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, DC 20013-7127



LC-HABS-GS07-T-935-702L	DETAIL, NW CORNER (Negative)
LC-HABS-GS07-T-935-702R *	DETAIL, NW CORNER (Negative)
	Left and right overlap: 85%
LC-HABS-GS07-T-935-703L *	DETAIL, FRONT ENTRANCE (Diapositive enlargement)
LC-HABS-GS07-T-935-703R	DETAIL, FRONT ENTRANCE (Diapositive enlargement)
	Left and right overlap: 95%
LC-HABS-GS07-T-935-704L *	DOORWAY--WEST ELEVATION (Diapositive enlargement)
LC-HABS-GS07-T-935-704R	DOORWAY--WEST ELEVATION (Diapositive enlargement)
	Left and right overlap: 95%

PROJECT INFORMATION STATEMENT

Photogrammetric images were incorporated into the HABS/HAER collections in the summers of 1985 and 1986. Inventories of the images were compiled and filed as data pages for each structure recorded. Since the glass photogrammetric plates are not reproducible except with special permission, a reference print and film copy negative were made from one plate of each stereopair and from the most informative plates in sequential sets. The reference prints and copy negatives were then incorporated into the formal HABS/HAER photograph collections.

The Photogrammetric Images Project was a cooperative endeavor between the HABS/HAER Division of the National Park Service and the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress. The reference prints and film copy negatives of the original plates were made by the Library of Congress Photoduplication Service with funds provided by the Library of Congress Flat Film Preservation Fund. Additional reproductions were made by HABS/HAER. The project was supervised by HABS/HAER Architect John A. Burns, AIA, and completed by HABS Historians Jeanne C. Lawrence (University of London) in 1985 and Caroline R. Alderson (Columbia University) in 1986.